

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed from the United States Patent and Trademark Office on December 16, 2004, the Examiner rejected claims 1-36 and 41-45 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Deppa et al (United States Patent No. 6,151,134, hereinafter "Deppa"). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the claim set as provided herein is not anticipated by the cited reference, and respectfully provides the following:

The standard for a Section 102 rejection is set forth in M.P.E.P 706.02, which provides:

"... for anticipation under 35 U.S.C. 102, the reference must teach every aspect of the claimed invention either explicitly or impliedly. Any feature not directly taught must be inherently present."

Applicant respectfully submits that the cited reference does not teach either explicitly or impliedly every aspect of the amended claim set as provided herein and therefore does not anticipate the claims of the present invention.

Deppa teaches a host based printing system for printing a document having at least one page. The system has a rasterized-image printing device for printing the page and a computer having a multi-tasking operating system. The computer includes a high speed interface coupling the computer to the printing device, system memory, a resident computer application being operated in connection with the multi-tasking operating system to produce system graphics resources data, a rasterizer receiving system graphics resources data corresponding to the page from the computer application and rasterizing the data to produce bitmap data, a bitmap driver providing the rasterizer with printing device parameters, and a printing device interface (PDI) receiving print commands from the bitmap driver, retrieving output-ready data derived from the bitmap data from the system memory, and sending the retrieved output-ready data to the printing device. (see column 1, line 61 through column 2, line 10.)

In contrast, each independent claim provided herein includes language relating to use of a virtual printer driver that is not taught either explicitly or impliedly by Deppa. For example, in the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 37-40 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 28 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 37, and therefore is allowable. Claim 37 has been cancelled, and claims 38-40 have been amended to depend from independent base claim 28. Accordingly, since independent claim 28 is not anticipated nor made obvious by the cited reference, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 29-36, 38-40 and 42 are also not anticipated nor made obvious by the cited reference since they depend from independent base claim 28.

Additionally, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1 and 46-48 include similar language relating to a virtual printer driver. And, as discussed above, such limitations are not taught either explicitly or impliedly by Deppa. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1 and 46-48 are not anticipated nor made obvious by the cited reference. And, since independent base claims 1 and 46-48 are not anticipated nor made obvious by the cited reference, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-27 and 49-50 are also not anticipated nor made obvious by the cited reference since they depend from corresponding independent base claims 1 and 48.

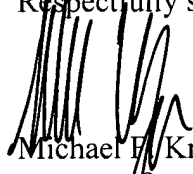
Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited reference does not teach every aspect of the claims as provided herein and therefore do not anticipate nor make obvious the claim set. For at least these reasons, rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102 is respectfully requested to be withdrawn. Further, Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments provided herein overcome all objections made by the Examiner to the claim set.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that the amendments made herein do not add new matter and that the claims are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant requests favorable reconsideration. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding this communication, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

DATED this 16 day of March, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,



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